

MARRIAGE & DIVORCE STATISTICS

MARRIAGE RATE

There were 2,021 marriages in Lancaster County in 2002. This translates into a rate of 7.8 per 1,000 population. The Nebraska rate was 7.5 per 1,000 in 2002. The marriage rates for Nebraska and Lancaster County have remained relatively stable for the past five years (Figure 19).

The most common month of marriage was June followed by May (Table 37).

AGE AND RACE

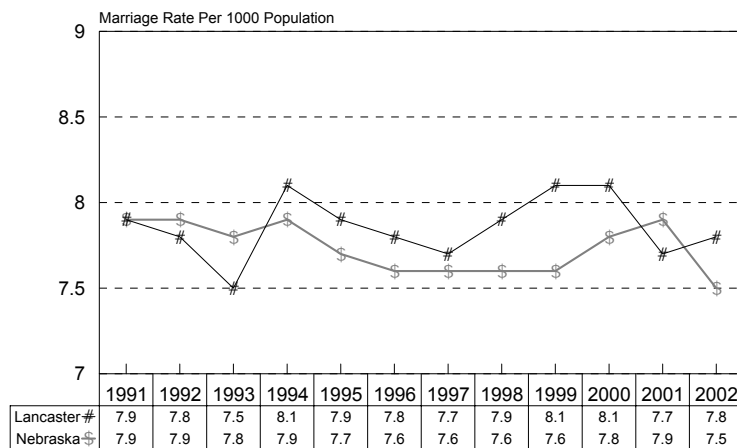
In 2002, 1,843 (91.2%) grooms and 1,847 (91.9%) brides were White. The remaining 172 grooms and 156 brides were of other races. Six grooms and 8 brides did not report any race (Table 38).

Table 36.
Marriages by Month
Lancaster County, 2002

Month	Frequency	Percent
January	82	4.1
February	96	4.8
March	111	5.5
April	149	7.4
May	248	12.3
June	273	13.5
July	201	9.9
August	221	10.9
September	218	10.8
October	187	9.3
November	114	5.6
December	121	6
Total	2021	100

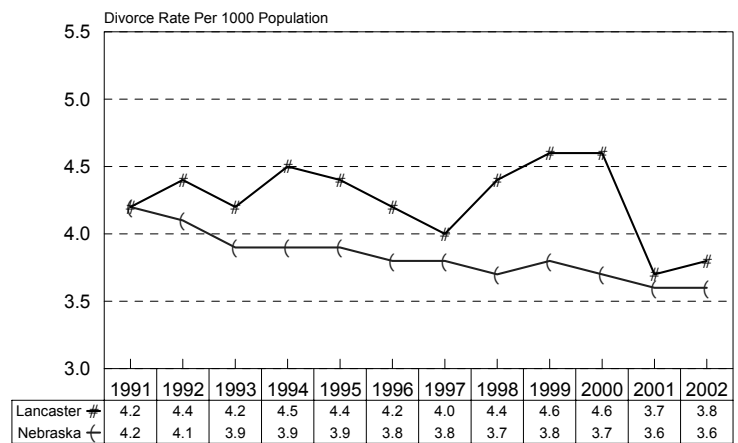
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Figure 19: Marriage Rate
Lancaster County and Nebraska
1991 to 2002



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Figure 20: Divorce Rate
Lancaster County and Nebraska
1991 to 2002



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In 2002, the mean age for Lancaster County grooms was 31 years. The mean age for brides was 29 years.

The mean marriage age of White males and females was 31 and 29 years, respectively. The mean age for Black males and females was 32 and 29 years, respectively. The mean marriage age for American Indian males and females was 28 and 29, respectively. The mean marriage age was 31 for Asian males and 29 for Asian females.

EDUCATION

Grooms and brides had a mean education of 14 years or two years of education beyond high school. The most frequent educational level was equivalent to a high school education (12 years) for both males and females.

DIVORCE RATE

The 2002 marriage/divorce ratio in Lancaster County was 2.1/1 (Table 39), indicating that there were 2.1 times as many marriages as divorces.

There were 973 divorces in Lancaster County in 2002. This represents a rate of 3.8 per 1,000 population (Figure 20). The 2002 divorce rate for Nebraska was 3.6 per 1,000 population.

Among males divorced in 2002, 68.6 percent were divorced for the first time,

while among females, 63.9 percent divorced for the first time.

AGE AND RACE

The mean age of divorced males was 39.5 years and the average age of divorced females was 37.4 years. The median age of divorced males was 39.0 years, while the median age of divorced females was 37.0 years. The average age of first time divorced males and females was 39.5 and 37.4 years, respectively.

Of the divorces where race was reported in 2002, 88.4 percent of the divorces involved White males and 90 percent of divorces involved White females. The marriage to divorce ratios ranged from 2 for Black males to 3.7 for Asian males (Table 38).

SETTLEMENT

In 2002, divorce settlements ranged from no settlement to alimony, child support, property, or a combination of settlements. Table 41 lists the types and frequencies of divorce settlements. Divorces most commonly involved property settlement only (40%) or property settlement and child support (30.3%).

CHILDREN OF DIVORCE & CUSTODY ARRANGEMENTS

Of the 973 divorces in 2002, 516 (53%) occurred in households with children under the age of 18.

Of the 516 divorce settlements involving children during 2001, the divorced woman was awarded exclusive custody of all or some children in 371 (71.9%) of the cases. Divorced men were awarded exclusive custody of some or all children in 47 (9.1%) of these divorces.

In 72 (13.9%) divorces, joint custody was awarded for some of all of the children. In 10 (1.9%) divorces, some or all children were awarded to a party other than the divorced man or woman.

Table 37.
Marriage by Sex and Race
Lancaster County, 2002

Race	Males	Percent	Females	Percent
White	1843	91.2	1857	91.9
Black	86	4.3	47	2.3
Am.Indian	9	0.4	12	0.6
Asian	77	3.8	97	4.8
Other/Unknown	6	0.2	8	0.3
Total	2021	100	2021	100

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Table 38.
Marriages/ Divorce Ratio
Race of Male
Lancaster County, 2002

Race	Number of Marriages/ Divorce	Ratio
White	1843/860	2.1/1
Black	86/43	2/1
Am Indian	S	2.3/1
Asian	77/21	3.7/1
Unknow/Other	S	0.1/1
Total	2021/973	2.1/1

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S=Suppressed for Confidentiality

Table 39.
Number or Times Married at the Time of Divorce.
Males and Females
Lancaster County, 2002

Times Married	Males	Percent	Females	Percent
1	667	68.6	664	63.9
2	199	20.5	189	23.8
3	47	4.8	52	5.9
4	11	1.1	13	1
5	S	S	S	S
6 or more	S	S	S	S
Not Classifiable	47	4.8	48	4.9
Total	973	100	973	100

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Table 40.
Types of Divorce Settlements
Lancaster County, 2002

Settlement	Frequency	Percentage
None	119	12.2
Alimony	1	0.1
Child Support	73	7.5
Property Settlement	397	40.8
Alimony and Child Support	2	0.2
Alimony and Property Settlement	38	3.9
Child Support and Property Settlement	295	30.3
Alimony, Child Support and Property Settlement	48	4.9
All Other	0	0
Unknown and Not Classifiable	0	0
Total	973	100

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